

Message Text

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71

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 OMB-01 T-03 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01 /124 W

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R 151925 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8398

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 6512

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, IZ, IS

SUBJECT: IRAQI JEWS

REF: A) STATE 0044917; B) PARIS 5657

1. ON MARCH 14 EMBOFF FOLLOWED UP WITH QAUI DEPUTY DIRECTOR MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS ROUILLON EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH DIRECTOR DE COMMINES (REF B). EMBOFF MADE POINTS REF A INDICATING US DOUBTS ABOUT IRAQI REPLY TO MOST RECENT FRENCH DEMARCHE AND USG SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE FRENCH EFFORTS, INCLUDING PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL ACTION, INTERNATIONAL GROUP ACCESS AND VERIFICATION OF NAMES. ROUILLON TOOK NOTE OF ALL POINTS.

2. ROUILLON SAID FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ CURRENTLY IN PARIS FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT. HE WOULD BE HAVING CONSULTATIONS AT QUAU FOLLOWING RELEASE FROM HOSPITAL IN ABOUT TEN DAYS. AT THAT TIME, ROUILLON SAID THERE WOULD BE SPECIFIC DISCUSSION OF IRAQI JEWISH ISSUE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT USG SUGGESTIONS. IN PARTICULAR, QUAU WOULD SEEK AMBASSADOR'S READING OF RELIABILITY OF WHAT IRAQIS HAD TOLD HIM. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IRAQI RESPONSES RAISED QUESTIONS WHICH NEEDED TO BE CLARIFIED. TIMING AND LEVEL OF ANY FUTURE DEMARCHE WOULD ESSENTIALLY BE LEFT TO DISCRETION OF AMBASSADOR, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT LIKELY IMPACT ON

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FRANCO- IRAQI RELATIONS AND EFFICIACY OF DEMARCHE. ROUILLOON
EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT FURTHER EFFORTS NOT LIKELY TO HARM
CURRENT FRANCO- IRAQI RELATIONS, BUT HE FRANKLY SKEPTICAL THAT
DEMARCHES HAVING MUCH EFFECT ON GOI.

3. COMMENT: WHILE MAKING NO COMMITMENTS RE FUTURE, IT
SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT FRENCH WILL DECIDE TO MAKE YET ANOTHER
APPROACH TO IRAQIS IN SEVERAL WEEKS TIME. DECISION TO DO SO
WOULD REFLECT NOT ONLY DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS WHICH WE AND ISRAELIS
HAVE MADE, BUT ALSO CONTINUED PRESSURE FROM FRENCH
POLITICANS AND JEWISH COMMUNITY, WHICH ROUILLOON NOTED
CONTINUED AND WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS BIZARRE BUT EFFECTIVE.
KUBISCH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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